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Another Ctg worker dies
Death toll in Ctg garment fire rises to 55
UNB, Ctg

Another worker injured in Thursday's fire at the KIS Textiles and Garments Industry died yesterday at Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH), pushing the death toll to 55.
The dead was identified as 19-year-old Monowara Begum, who was undergoing treatment at the CMCH with severe burns.
Six of the seriously injured female workers were flown to Dhaka Medical College Hospital
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Blocked road leads to severe snarl-up
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

City's nagging traffic gridlock changed for the worse over the last two days as vehicular movement was suspended temporarily on Mohakhali-Moghbar road due to the rescue operation of the collapsed building in Tejgaon.
Yesterday's daylong traffic snarl-up stretching from the Airport Road to Farmgate, including the road in front of the prime minister's office (PMO), came as a testament to Dhaka's vulnerability in coping with any emergency rush of road transports.
SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

No 'engineered election', says Hasina
-HASAN AHMED TUSHER, back from Dinajpur

Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the 14-party opposition combine and the people will not allow any 'engineered election' in the country and so, the alliance government must reform the caretaker government system and the Election Commission (EC) before the next elections are held.
She was addressing a press briefing at Bogra Parjatan Motel on her way to Dhaka from Dinajpur where she addressed a grand rally
SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

TEJGAON BUILDING COLLAPSE Another body dragged out, search on

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
One more dead body and two living workers were pulled out yesterday from the debris of the multi-storey building at Tejgaon that collapsed on Saturday as rescuers removed around one-fifth rubble 36 hours into the incident.
The rescuers found the body of Nabiullah around 6:00am yesterday while clearing the rubble at the west corner of the collapsed structure. Details about the victim could not be known.
Meanwhile, one Abdul Berek, a mason rescued on Saturday, succumbed to his injuries at his Badda residence yesterday, raising the death toll to 18 until yesterday evening.
Rescuers led by the army removed parts of debris from all sides of the building's top floor until last evening. They dug three holes through the concrete slabs of the next three floors but did not find anyone alive or dead in and around the holes.
"We shouted through the holes and searched with searchlights to see if anyone was alive, but no one responded to our call or was found," Major Zahir Uddin Mohammad Babar, director (operation and maintenance) of Fire Service and Civil Defence, told The Daily Star.
The rescuers are using excavators only after being sure that no victim is around, he said, adding they are also pumping fresh air into the rubble so that survivors, if any, do not die of suffocation or lack of oxygen.
Leader of the rescue operation Brigadier General Nizam Ahmed told The Daily Star, "Possibly there are very few people inside the rubble as we did not find anybody searching through the holes."
Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) used its dog squad to search for victims in the debris.
An army officer preferring anonymity said, "We hope that it would take four more days to complete the rescue operation."
YESTERDAY'S SURVIVORS
Shakil, a mason, pulled himself out of the rubble around 10:00am while Asaduzzaman Sumon, an
SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



An excavator knocks down a standing part of the collapsed building in Tejgaon in the city yesterday to cut the risk of further fatalities. The disaster on Saturday left at least 18 people dead.

Waking up in grave
SHARIFUL ISLAM and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Sumon wakes up in a grave-like darkness. A construction worker, he was working on the ground floor when the building caved in with a boom, throwing him into a black-out. As he instinctively gropes around, he finds the roof hanging just two feet above, making it impossible to sit, let alone standing.
"Thank God," he thinks, "I have no major injuries and the surrounding space is empty, too." He crawls and gropes looking for a way out. After some 15 minutes, he arrives on the first floor, not much higher than the ground.
As if in a dream, he searches for a break in the wall through which he may get out. After several hours of fumbling and peering around in the debris, he comes upon a water bottle. By now he is drained of the last iota of strength and the water
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Farmers' fury boils over

They agitate for fertiliser, power

STAR REPORT
Persistent fuel and power crises fanned further agitation among the fertiliser-hungry farmers as they continued barricading roads and hemming local government offices in several districts yesterday in the peak-boro season.
Agitators in Tangail, Khulna, Satkhira, Rajshahi and Kishoreganj, among other districts, staged demonstrations demanding fertiliser and in protest against outage.
As many as 10 people were injured in an attack during fertiliser distribution in Mollarhat upazila in Bagerhat. Awami League (AL) leaders clashed with police while laying a siege to the deputy commissioner's (DC) office in Satkhira.
In Tangail, hundreds of farmers along with common people besieged the Mirzapur Pally Bidyut Samity office and barricaded Dhaka-Tangail Highway in the morning. They marched in a procession in front of the Pally Bidyut office around 10:30am.
Protesting the ongoing crises of power, fuel, fertiliser, and price hikes of essentials, speakers at a rally urged the government to initiate immediate move to deal with the situation.
Participants of the rally blocked Dhaka-Tangail Highway at 11:30am, disrupting vehicular movement for half an hour. Hundreds of buses, trucks and other vehicles were stranded on both sides of the road until the barricade was lifted.
A large number of leaders, activists and supporters of Krishak League laid a siege to the offices of Dumuria upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) and local agriculture in Khulna, demanding urea at a reasonable price.
The agitators held a rally on the UNO office premises where they alleged the government is patronising dealers loyal to it for hoarding urea and selling it at higher prices.
They further alleged nine of the 15 dealers in connivance with the UNOs in the district have created an artificial crisis of fertiliser.
A source in the Department of Agriculture said they have already initiated probes into the matter with the help of intelligence agencies.
The district needs 44,000 tonnes of urea annually, but only 16,340 tonnes were so far allocated in the current fiscal year, said a source in the DC office.
Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation is yet to allocate the full quantities of urea required to meet the demand of the
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Rajuk in dark about sloppy buildings

MORSHED ALI KHAN
The government's sloppy monitoring on the booming construction sector has once again come into focus with yet another building collapse in the city on Saturday.
There are 4,376 buildings six to 22 stories in 66 localities of the city but Rajuk has no idea how many of these structures were built following proper construction rules, Rajuk sources said.
Unable to crosscheck documents due to theft of over 250 files from its archive, Rajuk sources said it would not be possible to verify the legitimacy of many structures unless a door to door survey is done.
According to top officials of the Public Works Department (PWD) and Rajuk, the entire city is dotted with buildings which were either built without any approval of Rajuk or in total violation of proper construction rules. Officials said over 95 percent of all Rajuk approved structures in the city have been built deviating from original plans.
PWD officials said a large section of landowners, developers, engineers and architects are involved in doing this. Rajuk, the sole authority to approve building plans and to monitor construction, is riddled with corruption where anyone can get anything done through a gang of highly influential and well-linked middlemen.
For approval of a high rise building, above six stories high, the developer has to seek clearances from 16 different service providers including, Department of Environment, Wasa, Desa, DCC, Caab and Titas gas. According to a developer who built a ten-storey structure recently in Kamal Ataturk Avenue, the clearances are readily available through Rajuk middlemen for a fee of Tk 1 lakh to 2 lakh.
"We all know these papers are issued without any inspections or questions asked by any authorities but for the sake of an approved plan we have to buy them," said the developer requesting anonymity.
Once the construction work begins, in most cases the developer willfully makes his own deviations because he knows the Rajuk construction inspectors would come just to collect the bribe from him.
"When we start construction we
SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Bill passed to formulate building code
Violators to be imprisoned, fined
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Jatiya Sangsad yesterday passed a bill empowering the government to formulate a national building code to ensure construction standards with a provision for punishment in case of non-compliance with the regulations.
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Moudud, AL criticise speaker
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Moudud Ahmed and the main opposition Awami League (AL) yesterday criticised the speaker in parliament for allowing personal clarification on matters already expunged from the House proceedings.
"Nobody can be given the floor on the grounds of personal
SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

PM accuses opposition of conspiracy to foil elections

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Prime Minister Khaleda Zia accused the opposition of hatching conspiracies against the country and to boycott the next general elections.
"Conspiracies are on to destroy democracy and development, but their ill attempts won't be successful. Those who are afraid of elections want to boycott and obstruct it," she alleged while addressing a rally at Paltan Maidan yesterday organised by BNP's front organisation Jatiyatabadi Juba Dal.
The prime minister, however, did not give any direct answer to the oppositions' demand for reforming the system of caretaker
SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

Judiciary separation bill tabled in JS

Provides for parallel magistracy; govt also places Public Procurement Bill
STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The government at last placed a much-awaited bill in the Jatiya Sangsad (JS) yesterday seeking separation of the judiciary from the executive with a provision for introducing separate executive and judicial magistracy.
Another bill titled 'Public Procurement Bill, 2006', pursued for long by The World Bank as a condition for its Development Support Credit and aimed at bringing transparency and curbing corruption in public procurement, was also tabled in the House.
Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Moudud Ahmed piloted the bill for separation of the judiciary styled the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2006, terming the move a historic one.
"This is a significant step in the process of separating the judiciary from the executive in line with the Supreme Court directives," he told the House, replying to an objection of Awami League lawmaker KM Jahangir Hossain.
Jahangir questioned the ground and the motive for introducing two types of magistracy, which, he said, goes against the spirit of the constitution.
However, the House rejected the
SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

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Telephone: _____

Married Unmarried

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Name of Examination	Year of Passing	Board	School/College	Total Marks	Division/GPA
SSC					
HSC					

Currently studying:
 Medicine Engineering Science Arts/Social Science Commerce Higher Agro-science
Name and address of current academic institute: _____

Family Background:

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Number of family members: Number of dependent family members:

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• Your personal strengths as an individual • Your goals and ambitions
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